

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Presumptive Eligibility (PE) for Coronavirus (COVID-19)

1. What is Presumptive Eligibility (PE) for Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

PE for COVID-19 provides temporary, no cost diagnostic testing, testing-related services, and treatment services, including all medically necessary care, which include associated office, clinic, or emergency room visits related to COVID-19 during a PE period to uninsured individuals determined eligible by a Qualified Provider (QP) based on preliminary applicant information.

2. What is a Qualified Provider (QP)?

A Qualified Provider (QP) is an approved Medi-Cal provider who participates as a QP, permitted under the approved California Medicaid State Plan in relation to PE programs.

3. What is the authority for implementing the PE for COVID-19?

On March 18, 2020, the House Resolution (H.R.) 6201 Families First Coronavirus Response Act, Section 6004, authorized State Medicaid programs the ability to cover uninsured individuals for purposes of providing COVID-19 diagnostic testing and testing-related services, at no cost to the individuals.

4. When will PE for COVID-19 be implemented?

PE for COVID-19 was implemented on April 8, 2020.

5. Who is potentially eligible for PE COVID-19?

To qualify for PE for COVID-19, individuals must:

- Have no health insurance, or
- Have private health insurance that does not cover diagnostic testing, testing-related services, and treatment services, including all medically necessary care for COVID-19, or
- Are not eligible under any of the other Medi-Cal programs (with the exception of individuals who have not met their Medi-Cal Share of Cost obligation), and
- Be a California resident.

6. What is PE for COVID-19 eligibility determination based on?

The PE for COVID-19 eligibility determination is based on the denial of eligibility for the Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE), Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Gateway Program, or Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women (PE4PW) programs.

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Applications used for HPE, CHDP and PE4PW:

- HPE Application (DHCS 7022)
- CHDP Gateway Program, Pre-Enrollment Application (DHCS 4073, rev. 10/13), or
- PE4PW, Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women Program Application (MC 263P).

7. How long does it take to receive the PE for COVID-19 determination?

The QP will be able to view the PE for COVID-19 eligibility determination in the Point of Service (POS) system in real-time after the applicant information is entered and the individual is eligible to the program.

8. What services are covered under the PE for COVID-19?

All medically necessary services for COVID-19 will be covered under PE for COVID-19. This includes medically necessary diagnostic testing, testing-related services, and treatment services provided at the associated office, clinic, or emergency room visit related to COVID-19. These services will be paid up to the maximum reimbursement fee-for-service (FFS) rate, in the FFS delivery system.

9. When does the PE for COVID-19 enrollment period begin and end?

The PE for COVID-19 enrollment period begins on the date of application and ends on the last calendar day of the month in which the 60th day falls from the date of the PE application in which the individual was determined eligible for PE.

10. Is a Social Security Number required to apply for PE for COVID-19?

No, a Social Security Number is not required to apply for PE for COVID-19.